

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute previously presented claim numbers 14 and 15 with the following amended claims having the same claim numbers.

14. (currently amended) A hybrid protein comprising one antigen-binding antibody fragment covalently linked to an albumin molecule ~~or a fragment thereof~~, wherein the antibody fragment and albumin are indirectly linked by a bridging molecule between the thiol groups of a cysteine residue present in the antibody and another present in the albumin at position 34.

15. (currently amended) A hybrid protein according to Claim 14 wherein the bridging molecule is from around 10Å Å to around 20Å Å in length.

16. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 15 wherein the bridging molecule is an optionally substituted hexylene chain.

17. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 14 wherein the antibody fragment is a monovalent Fab fragment optionally containing one or more additional amino acids attached to the C-terminus of the CH1 domain.

18. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 17 wherein the antibody fragment is a monovalent Fab or Fab' fragment.

19. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 14 covalently linked to one or more effector or reporter groups.

20. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising of a hybrid protein according to Claim 14 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents or carriers.